

IN THE CLAIMS

1 – 20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A user interface system allowing a user interface of a first device to be supported at least in part by a second device, the system comprising:

a module for generating at least one high-level event message indicating that an event has occurred that is relevant to the first device;

a router present at the first device for determining whether said at least one high-level event message is handled locally at the first device or remotely at the second device;

a mapper for mapping said at least one high-level message into at least one lower-level message for controlling one or more hardware elements controlled by the second device; and

a module for communicating said at least one lower-level message to the second device, such that the second device may activate one or more hardware elements that are appropriate for said event that has occurred.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said first device is temporarily connected to said second device.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said first device is permanently connected to said second device.

24. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said first device connects to said second device via wireless communication.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said first device connects to said second device via wireline communication.

26. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said first device comprises a client device that is hosted by said second device.

27. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said first device includes media capture capability.

28. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said second device includes cellular phone capability.

29. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said first device also includes hardware elements capable of being controlled by said at least one lower-level message.

30. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said at least one high-level message is generated, at least in part, based on a then-current state of the first device.

31. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said at least one high-level message is a logical user interface message indicating a logical user interface manifestation that should occur.

32. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said at least one high-level message itself does not specify activation of particular hardware elements on the second device.

33. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said at least one lower-level message does specify activation of one or more particular hardware elements on the second device.

34. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said first device comprises a client device and wherein said second device comprises a host device to which the client device occasionally connects.

35. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said module for generating at least one high-level event message determines a new state that is appropriate for the first device to transition to; and generates at least one high-level message appropriate for indicating the transition to said new state.

36. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said event comprises a user event.

37. (Original) The system of claim 36, wherein said user event comprises user-supplied input.

38. (Original) The system of claim 36, wherein said user event comprises user activation of an input element.

39. (Original) The system of claim 38, wherein said input element comprises an input button.

40. (Original) The system of claim 38, wherein said input element resides on said first device.

41. (Original) The system of claim 38, wherein said user input element resides on said second device.

42. (Original) The system of claim 41, further comprising:
a module for transmitting a notification to said first device in response to user activation of said user input element residing on said second device.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said at least one particular hardware element comprises an element capable of generating a display.

45. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said at least one particular hardware element comprises an LED (light-emitting diode).

46. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said at least one particular hardware element comprises a bitmap display.

47. (Original) The system of claim 46, wherein said bitmap display shows an icon in response to receipt at the second device of said at least one lower-level message.

48. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said at least one particular hardware element comprises an element capable of generating sound.

49. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said first device may be embedded within said second device.

50. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said module for communicating said at least one lower-level message to the second device employs a configurable table so that the second device itself may be selected from different classes of devices.

51. (Currently Amended) An interface system allowing a client device to be partially supported by a host device, the system comprising:

an onboard interface engine on the client device for generating at least one high-level event message indicating that an event has occurred on the client device;

a router in the client device to determine whether the at least one high level event message should be handled locally at the client device or remotely at the host;

a state transition table to transition to the new state based on the event; and

a module to update the client device's current state information; and

a mapper for mapping said at least one high-level message into at least one lower-level message for controlling one or more hardware elements controlled by the second device.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, further comprising an event handler for communicating said at least one lower-level message to the second device, such that the second device may activate one or more hardware elements that are appropriate for the event that occurred.

53. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein said first device includes a digital camera.

54. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein said second device includes the ability to connect to a cellular network.

55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the client device further comprises hardware elements capable of being controlled by the lower level message.

56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the high level message is generated based on a current state of the client device.

57. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the high-level message is a user interface message designed for display to a user.

58. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 51 24, wherein the event comprises a user even selected form among the following: a user supplied input, a user activation of an input element, a status change.

59. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein said input element resides on the client device.

60. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein said user input element resides on the host device.

61. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 60, further comprising:
the a router for transmitting a notification to the client device in response to the user activating the input element on the host device.

62. (Cancelled)

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the hardware element comprises a display.

64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 63, wherein the display shows an icon in response to receipt of the lower-level message at the client device.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the hardware element comprises a speaker.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the module for communicating the lower-level message to the second device employs a configurable table so that the host device itself may be selected from different classes of devices.

67. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
receiving a notification at a first device, indicating that an event has occurred with respect to the first device;
determining whether the event should be handled locally at the first device or remotely at a second device;
transmitting a message to the second device, intended to activate a hardware element on the second device;
activating a hardware element on the second device, in response to the message.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, wherein the event is a user interface event.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the event is one or more of the following: a user supplied input, a user activation of an input element, a status change.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, further comprising:
determining a new state that is appropriate for the first device to transition to in response to the event; and

generating at least one abstract message appropriate for indicating the transition to the new state.